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United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development

Ninth meeting
Geneva, 3 and 4 April 2014
Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda
Implementing the third phase of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development: member States' progress and 2013–2014 champions

Proposed topics for reporting on progress in the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development

Note by the secretariat

Summary

By its terms of reference, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Steering Committee for Education for Sustainable Development is charged with monitoring the progress of the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (CEP/AC.13/2005/4/Rev.1, annex, para. 4 (b)). In line with this mandate, and following the Steering Committee's decisions adopted at its sixth and seventh meetings, countries are to submit informal reports to the Committee at its ninth meeting on the progress achieved and challenges encountered in implementing education for sustainable development (ESD) since the last meeting (ECE/CEP/AC.13/2011/2, para. 17; ECE/CEP/AC.13/2012/2, para. 21). The secretariat will subsequently review all the reports submitted and prepare a presentation, which will identify the major themes and interesting developments with regard to the implementation of ESD in the ECE region.

To facilitate this process, the secretariat, together with the Chair of the Committee and in coordination with the Bureau, has prepared the present document — a brief questionnaire on progress made and challenges encountered. Countries are kindly requested to fill in the questionnaire and submit it to the secretariat before 15 March 2014.

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1. National reporting on the progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development offers a valuable opportunity for countries to learn from each other and to share newly produced resources and materials within and beyond the ECE region.

2. In preparation for the ninth meeting of the ECE Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development, countries are requested to fill in the questionnaire below, reporting on: (a) progress made and challenges encountered in implementing the three priority action areas since the eighth Steering Committee meeting (Geneva, 21–22 March 2013); and (b) plans concerning the implementation of education for sustainable development (ESD) on the national level after the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014).

3. Countries are kindly requested to submit this information in writing to the secretariat via e-mail (esd@unece.org) by **15 March 2014.**

4. The secretariat will review all the information submitted, and deliver a synthesis presentation at the Steering Committee's ninth meeting. The presentation will be followed by an interactive discussion.

5. Recognizing the importance of celebrating champions of ESD, Steering Committee members are in particular invited to indicate if there are any outstanding initiatives on the implementation of the priority action areas in their countries that they wish to share and/or present.

Questionnaire for 2014 informal country reporting on the implementation of the priority action areas

I. Priority action area (a) to promote the introduction of ESD into teacher education: Advances made and challenges encountered since the eighth Steering Committee meeting in March 2013

1. Has there been any significant advancement made with regard introducing/ extending ESD as a part of educators' initial training?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify*
- *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

2. Have there been any significant advances made with regard to introducing/ extending ESD as a part of educators' in-service training?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify*
- *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

3. Are there any recently produced materials/resources that are accessible to a wider audience (e.g., online)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify and, if applicable, indicate the language and website address*

II. Priority action area (b) to ensure that there is an ESD school plan in every school by 2015: Advances made and challenges encountered since the eighth Steering Committee meeting in March 2013

1. Has the number of schools adopting a "whole-institution approach" to sustainable development (SD)/ESD increased?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify*
- *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

2. Have any (additional) incentives and assistance measures (guidelines, award scheme, funding, training, technical support) been made available that support ESD school plans?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify*
- *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

3. Are there any recently produced materials/resources that are accessible to a wider audience (e.g., online)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify and, if applicable, indicate the language and website address*

III. Priority action area (c) to reorient technical and vocational education and training in support of sustainable development and the transition to a green economy: Advances made and challenges encountered since the eighth Steering Committee meeting in March 2013

1. Has there been advancement towards a structural reorientation of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) towards ESD?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify*
- *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

2. Have any incentives and assistance measures been made available that support the reorientation of TVET towards SD?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify*
- *Please indicate if you wish to make a presentation on this topic/if there is an outstanding initiative in your country on this topic*

3. Are there any recently produced materials/resources that are accessible to a wider audience (e.g., online)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

- *Please specify and, if applicable, indicate the language and website address*

IV. Implementing education for sustainable development beyond the United Nations Decade of ESD

1. Is there already a political commitment/indication that ESD implementation will continue to be supported after the United Nations Decade of ESD?

Yes ☐ No ☐ • *Please specify*

2. Is there an indication of what will (continue to) be the priorities of your country for future ESD implementation?

Yes ☐ No ☐ • *Please specify*